GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:99
ANSWERED ON:19.11.2001
SUICIDE CASES OF AGRICULTURAL FARMERS
SURESH KODIKUNNIL;V.M. SUDHEERAN

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are several reports from various parts of the country that farmers are committing suicide;

(b) if so, the number of such cases recorded till date during the last three years, State-wise;

(c) the reasons attributed thereto; and

(d) the remedial steps taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (d): As per reports available from the States for the period 1999-2001 the numberof cases of suicides by farmers were as follows :-

Andhra Pradesh	- 27
Karnataka	- 54

For Punjab, an NGO documented alleged cases of Suicide by farmers − theissue is sub judice before the Punjab and Haryana High Court. Reasons for suicide differ from individual to individual irrespective of occupation of the victims and are investigated by appropriate agency in each such case. Government of Karnataka hasappointed a Committee of Experts to go into the causes of such unfortunate incidents. Central Government had also looked into the matter through a Study Group in 1998which recommended a number of measures for improving provision of benefits to farmers. These have been brought to the notice of States.